

4423. Misbranding of "V. I. G." U. S. * * * v. Van Vleet-Mansfield Drug Co., a corporation. Plea of guilty. Fine, \$25 and costs. (F. & D. No. 6309. I. S. No. 7823-e.)

On January 19, 1916, the United States attorney for the Western District of Tennessee, acting upon a report by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the District Court of the United States for said district an information against the Van Vleet-Mansfield Drug Co., a corporation, Memphis, Tenn., alleging shipment by said company, in violation of the Food and Drugs Act, as amended, on or about February 6, 1913, from the State of Tennessee into the State of Texas, of a quantity of "V. I. G.," which was misbranded. The article was labeled: (On carton) "'V. I. G.' (Contains 1 Grain Morphine to Ounce.) We Sell the Best (Trade Mark Registered) A Remedy for Chronic Cases of Gonorrhœa and Gleet No loss of time or change of diet necessary. Do not expose to Cold, it will Freeze. Physicians prescribe it!—Price One Dollar.—Guaranteed by Van Vleet-Mansfield Drug Co., under the Pure Food and Drugs Act, June 30, 1906. Serial No. 2165. From the Laboratory of the Van Vleet-Mansfield Drug Co. Memphis, Tenn. Read the formula on the back of this carton." (On back of carton) "Statement To Physicians and the General Public in Regard to the Component Parts of Our Proprietary Medicines: These Preparations are, as a rule, compounded from well-tried prescriptions of reputable physicians, hence their remarkable efficacy; but knowing the proper prejudice of many against using any medicines prepared from concealed formulas, and to protect the public against the many nostrums and worthless preparations with which the market is flooded, we have concluded, on the request of a number of physicians, who are aware of the great value of our preparations, and who desire to prescribe same in their practice, to indicate on each bottle of what the medicines are composed. In regard to our 'V. I. G.' beg to state that the active remedial agents are as follows: Golden Seal, Salicylate Soda, Sulphate Morphine, Glycerine and Distilled Water. Van Vleet Mansfield Drug Co." (On sides) "An Antidote for all Contagion.—A Syringe with Every Bottle—." (On top flap) "Read the Formula on back of this Carton." (On bottle) "'V. I. G.' Contains one grain of morphine to fluid ounce Plantation Remedies Trade Mark For the cure of Gonorrhœa, Gleet, Leucorrhœa Directions Inject two teaspoonfuls 3 times day. If at first it causes irritation, dilute with an equal quantity of water. When the discharge has ceased, gradually diminish injection to once a day, and continue for a week. Wear a suspensory bandage, avoid sexual intercourse and excitement, and abstain from the use of alcoholic stimulants, tobacco, and coffee in excessive quantities. For females, inject a wineglassful twice daily. To prevent contagion, use immediately after connection. To render our V. I. G. most effective use internally Plantation Kidney Cure, price 50 cents. Guaranteed by Van Vleet-Mansfield Drug Co: under Food and Drugs Act, June 30, 1906. Serial No. 2165. Price \$1.00 From the Laboratory of the Van Vleet-Mansfield Drug Co., Memphis, Tennessee."

Analysis of a sample of the article by the Bureau of Chemistry of this department showed the following results:

Morphine (gram per 100 cc)	0.04
Salicylic acid (gram per 100 cc)	0.13
An aqueous solution of glycerin, morphine, berberine, hydrastine, and salicylic acid.	

Misbranding of the article was alleged in the information for the reason that the following statements regarding the therapeutic or curative effects thereof, appearing on the label aforesaid, to wit, (On carton) "A Remedy for Chronic Cases of Gonorrhœa and Gleet * * * an Antidote for all contagion." (On bottle) "For the cure of Gonorrhœa, Gleet, Leucorrhœa * * *

To prevent contagion, use immediately after connection," were false and fraudulent in that the same were applied to said article knowingly, and in reckless and wanton disregard of their truth or falsity, so as to represent falsely and fraudulently to the purchasers thereof, and create in the minds of purchasers thereof the impression and belief, that it was, in whole or in part, composed of, or contained, ingredients or medicinal agents effective, among other things, as a remedy for chronic cases of gonorrhea and gleet, as an antidote for all contagion, as a cure for gonorrhea, gleet, and leucorrhea, and as a preventive of contagion when used immediately after connection, when, in truth and in fact, it was not, in whole or in part, composed of, and did not contain, such ingredients or medicinal agents.

On January 20, 1916, the defendant company entered a plea of guilty to the information, and the court imposed a fine of \$25 and costs.

CARL VROOMAN, *Acting Secretary of Agriculture.*